United Nations S/PV.7356

Security Council

Seventieth year

Provisional

7356th meeting

Thursday, 8 January 2015, 3 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Barros Melet	(Chile)
Members:	Angola	Mr. Gaspar Martins
	Chad	Mr. Cherif
	China	Mr. Zhao Yong
	France	Mr. Delattre
	Jordan	Mrs. Kawar
	Lithuania	Mr. Baublys
	Malaysia	Mrs. Adnin
	New Zealand	Mr. McLay
	Nigeria	Mrs. Ogwu
	Russian Federation	Mr. Iliichev
	Spain	Mr. González de Linares Palou
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Wilson
	United States of America	Mr. Pressman
	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Mr. Suárez Moreno

Agenda

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the translation of speeches delivered in other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room U-0506 (verbatimrecords@un.org). Corrected records will be reissued electronically on the Official Document System of the United Nations (http://documents.un.org).

15-00812 (E)

Accessible document Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Expression of sympathy in connection with the terrorist attack in Paris

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): At the outset of this meeting I should like, on behalf of the members of the Security Council, to express our profound sadness over the intolerable attack that took place in Paris yesterday, which led to the loss of many lives. To the families of the victims, and to the people and the Government of France, the Security Council expresses its heartfelt sympathy and condolences.

I now invite the members of the Council to rise and observe a minute of silence in tribute to the memory of the victims.

The members of the Security Council observed a minute of silence.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

After consultations among Council members, I have been authorized to make the following statement on their behalf.

"The Security Council recalls its presidential statement of 5 November 2014 and reiterates its deep concern regarding the security and humanitarian crisis in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo due to ongoing destabilizing activities of foreign and domestic armed groups, and stresses the importance of neutralizing all armed groups, including, among others, the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR).

"The Security Council notes that the 2 January deadline set by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has passed, and that the FDLR has not only failed to unconditionally and fully surrender and demobilize, but has also continued to recruit new fighters in their ranks.

"The Security Council, while noting the surrender of an estimated 300 former rank-and-file members of the FDLR in 2014, consisting of mainly old and non-essential combatants, stresses that such surrenders alone are insufficient to end the threat posed by the group, and do not come close to representing the full demobilization of the FDLR as called for by the ICGLR, SADC and the Security Council.

"The Security Council further recalls that the swift neutralization of the FDLR is a top priority in bringing stability to and protecting the civilians of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region, in line with the wider commitments made in the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region.

"The Security Council notes the Democratic Republic of the Congo Government's 2 January statement, in which it stated that military action against the FDLR is now "inevitable", and that the region, represented by the ICGLR and SADC, has made clear its support for military action by the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), in the absence of the full demobilization of the FDLR, including its military leadership, with the objective of ending the threat posed by the group.

"The Security Council reiterates the need to put into sustained action the plans of the Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo (FARDC) and MONUSCO through its Force Intervention Brigade, in cooperation with the whole of MONUSCO as per paragraph 4 (b) of resolution 2147 (2014), to neutralize the FDLR by commencing military operations immediately.

"To that end, the Security Council calls on the authorities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in particular President Kabila as Commander in Chief, to approve swiftly and implement fully the MONUSCO-FARDC Joint Directive.

"The Security Council further notes the convening of a SADC/ICGLR summit scheduled for 15 and 16 January in Luanda, Angola.

"The Security Council reiterates its support for MONUSCO and calls on all parties, including

the Force Intervention Brigade troop-contributing countries, to remain committed to the full and objective implementation of the mission's mandate, including military operations to neutralize the FDLR. The Security Council stresses that such operations must be done in strict compliance with international law, including international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council further stresses that ending the threat of the FDLR, including through robust military action by the FARDC and MONUSCO through its Force Intervention Brigade, in cooperation with the whole of MONUSCO as per paragraph 4 (b) of resolution 2147 (2014), is a critical and necessary component of civilian protection, and expresses its intention to take into account progress made in ending the threat of the FDLR in assessing next steps in the Great Lakes.

"The Security Council reiterates its readiness to consider targeted sanctions against any individual or entity found to be supporting the FDLR.

"The Security Council further reiterates that FDLR combatants and their dependents may still at any point and without any preconditions choose a peaceful path by entering into the existing disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation or resettlement programme, which has successfully repatriated a significant number, and continues to successfully repatriate, former FDLR to Rwanda.

"The Security Council emphasizes the importance of addressing the root causes of the conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and the need for a comprehensive approach to restore peace and stability in the affected areas."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2015/1.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 3.15 p.m.